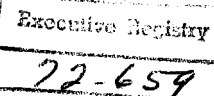


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U.S. House of Representatives

SUBCOMMITTEE ON EMPLOYEE BENEFITS
OF THE
COMMITTEE ON POST OFFICE AND CIVIL SERVICE

207 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

Washington, D.C. 20515

*House Subc.
on Emp.
Benefits*

FOR RELEASE: January 28, 1972

Hearings on a bill affecting the leave policy of the Federal Government will be held on February 8 and 9. The announcement was made today by Rep. James M. Hanley (D-N.Y.), Chairman of the House Subcommittee on Employee Benefits.

H. R. 12602, sponsored by Rep. Hanley and Rep. Spark Matsunaga, would change leave policy in three ways. The bill would--

1. prevent the loss of annual leave through administrative error, exigencies of public business, or illness,
2. allow the employee to use annual leave during the first 90 days of employment, and
3. permit a retiring employee to receive lump-sum payment for more than 30 days of leave upon retirement.

Hanley said that the bill should be of minimal cost to the Government since it concerns leave already earned by the employee. Hanley said that the first provision "is designed to prevent loss of earned leave by an employee when that loss occurred through no fault of his own."

Concerning the second provision, Hanley pointed out that

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new employees cannot take any leave during the first ninety days. "Yet, that period is often the time when an employee must take some time to look for housing, apply for a driver's license, arrange for insurance, and in general do the many things necessary when he moves from one city to another or one job to another."

Finally, Hanley pointed out that present law prevents lump-sum payment upon retirement for more than thirty days' leave--except for employees who amassed leave prior to 1952. The result is that an employee often uses several weeks of leave immediately prior to retirement. This can cause some administrative problems in position management, since the employee is still technically filling a position. "This bill would encourage employees to take payment for leave in excess of thirty days, and thus give management some added flexibility," Hanley said.

The hearings will commence at 10:00 a.m. on February 8, and 9:30 a.m. on February 9. Both hearings will be held in Room 210, Cannon House Office Building.

Organizations interested in testifying or submitting a statement should contact Richard Barton, Staff Assistant, Subcommittee on Employee Benefits, telephone: 225-6295.

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A limited quantity of the final report of the Job Evaluation and Pay Review Task Force is available. If you are interested in a copy, please write to the Subcommittee on Employee Benefits.

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